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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket No. DOT-MARAD 2014 – 0123]

Agency Requests for Renewal of a Previously Approved Information Collection(s):

Application for Construction Reserve Fund and Annual Statements (CRF)

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Maritime Administration (MARAD) invites public comments about our intention to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval to renew an information collection. The collection consists of an application required for all citizens who own or operate vessels in the U.S. foreign or domestic commerce and desire tax benefits under the Construction Reserve Fund (CRF) program. The annual statement sets forth a detailed analysis of the status of the CRF when each income tax return is filed. The information to be collected is required in order for MARAD to determine whether the applicant is qualified for the benefits of the CRF program. We are required to publish this notice in the Federal Register by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted by **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments [identified by Docket No. DOT-MARAD-2014-0123] through one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 1-202-493-2251
- *Mail or Hand Delivery:* Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, West Building, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel Ladd, 202-366-1859, Office of Financial Approvals, Maritime Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC, 20590.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control Number: 2133-0032

Title: Application for Construction Reserve Fund (CRF) and Annual Statements

Form Numbers: N/A

Type of Review: Renewal of an information collection.

Background: The Construction Reserve Fund (CRF), authorized by 46 U.S.C. Chapter 533, is a financial assistance program which provides tax deferral benefits to U.S.-flag operators. Eligible parties can defer the gain attributable to the sale or loss of a vessel, provided the proceeds are used to expand or modernize the U.S. merchant fleet. The primary purpose of the CRF is to promote the construction, reconstruction, reconditioning, or acquisition of merchant vessels which are necessary for national defense and to the development of U.S. commerce.

Respondents: Owners or operators of vessels in the domestic or foreign commerce.

Number of Respondents: 17

Frequency: Annually

Number of Responses: 17

Total Annual Burden: 153 hours/9 hours per respondent

Public Comments Invited: You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the Department's performance; (b) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (c) ways for the Department to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (d) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information. The agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

Privacy Act: Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the Federal Register published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78) or you may visit www.regulations.gov.

Authority: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.93.

Dated: September 8, 2014.

Julie P. Agarwal,
Secretary,
Maritime Administration.

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